



**Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Monday, February 23, 2015  
5:00-6:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

Welcome and call to order at 5:10 PM

Board Members In Attendance: Chad Galts, Martin Huntley, Rick Richards, Nicky Nichtern, Ellen Foley, Robin Warde, Nancy Levitt-Vieira, Kathy Cloutier, and Anna Cano Morales.

Absent:

Staff in Attendance: Julie Nora

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

- The minutes of the previous meeting of December 15, 2014 were unanimously approved.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- Academic Committee: Last met 1/8/2015 – February meeting cancelled because of weather
  - Julie and Darlene addressed questions that had been raised by committee members about how the school's dual-language program would be enhanced, and not undermined, by its becoming an International Baccalaureate school. They shared IB's language policies, which strongly advocate for learning multiple languages, and Darlene shared examples of two IB schools, one public, one private, that have integrated IB with their K-8 dual-language programs.
  - Updates were provided on some technology initiatives in the school, notification from RIDE concerning monitoring of Title II funds, and the status of educator evaluations at ICS.
  - The Academic Committee's role in reviewing and revising the Strategic Plan was discussed, with some suggested language from Rick for certain goals as the focus of the discussion.

- Next meeting (weather permitting): Thursday, March 5, 2015
- Finance Committee: Missed January meeting because of weather.
  - Budget is on track, but still projecting deficit for the year.
  - Next year's budget with 18 new students still does not look great.
  - Any reductions per the state's funding formula for charters would make matters worse.
  - Strategic Plan: business operations not currently included, but a business operations manual seems to be a separate required document rather than a part of the Strategic Plan.
- Governance Committee:
  - Plans to meet back-to-back with Development Committee to ensure more interaction between the two committees.
  - Work continues on seeking new members for the Board.
  - Future meetings may require Executive Sessions (with the appropriate statutory grounding) in order to fully discuss personnel who might be candidates for Board membership.
- Health & Wellness Committee:
  - St. Patrick's 5K has a team for March 7, 2015.
- Evaluation Committee: Evaluation of the Director is on schedule.

At 5:48pm a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to the Rhode Island Open Meetings Law, specifically Section 42-46-5(a)(5) of the General Laws of Rhode Island 1956 (2007 Reenactment) as amended related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, was unanimously approved.

Open meeting resumed at 6:15.

A motion to keep the minutes of the Executive Session confidential was unanimously approved.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Strategic Plan
  - Needs a focused meeting which distinguishes clearly between "strategic" and "operational" planning.
  - An organizing group was formed (including Julie, Rick, Chad and Martin) to shape this meeting.

Approved on 3/23/15

- Staffing plan
  - March 1 is the deadline for notifying any staff member who is not being kept. No-one is in this category.
- Annual report
  - We need a state of the school report that can be used for marketing.  
Needs to coordinate with the Strategic Plan
- PARCC testing
  - Dates are set for five days beginning March 24 for grades 3, 4 and 5.
  - Testing will be online.
- March 4 rally at State House 3-4:30 pm
  - Project Hope rally in collaboration with RIMA
- Revised school calendar
  - We need to add disclaimer language making explicit the need to make up any snow days.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Board meeting: March 23, 2015, 5:00-6:30 pm.

By unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Martin Huntley